

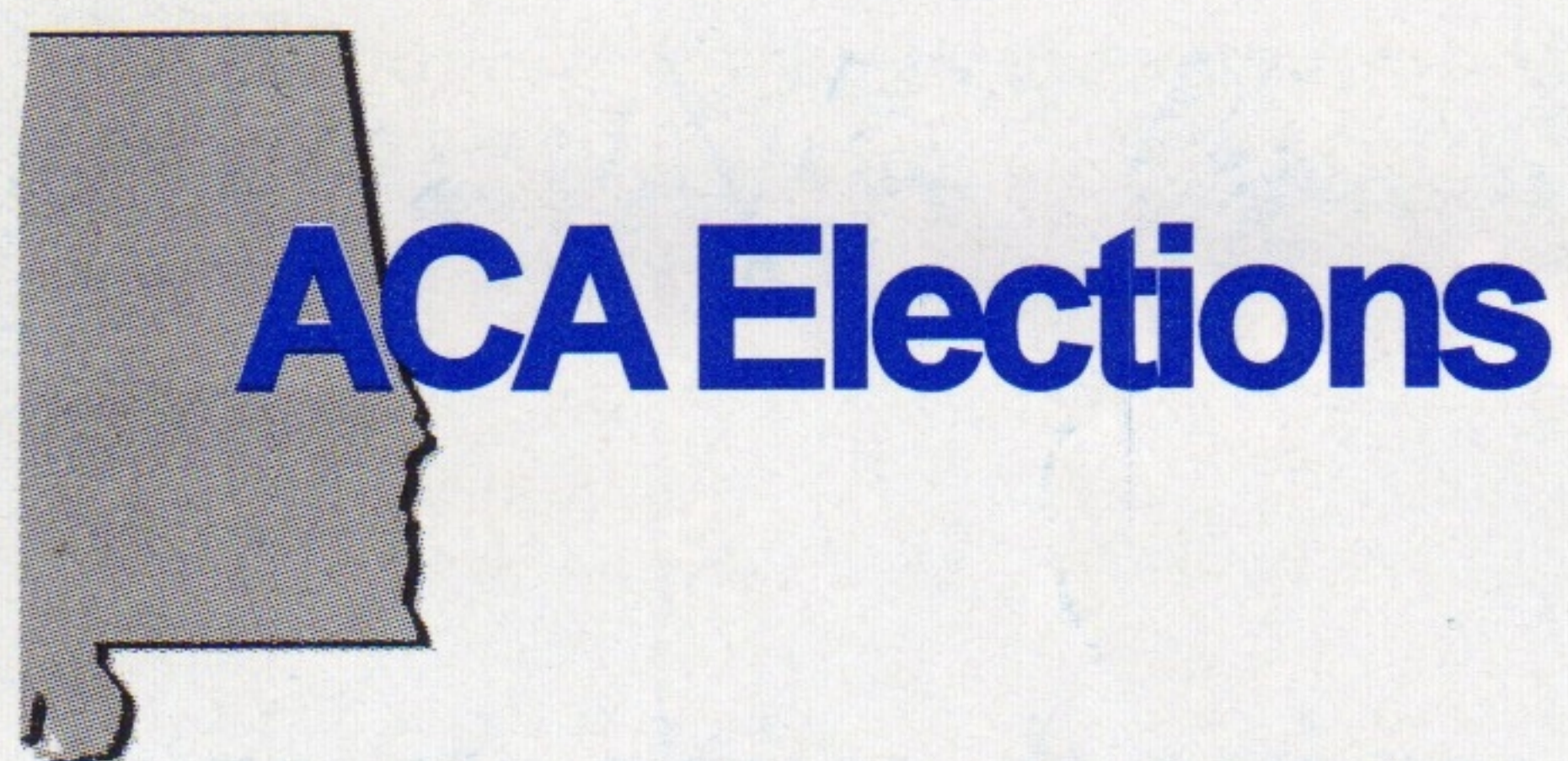
# ***The Alabama College Association Journal***

**Volume 20 No. 2**

## Summer 2004

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ACA ballots for the positions of Second Vice President will soon be distributed to ACA members. The candidates for Second Vice President are Geri Albright of Lawson State Community College and Jackie Screws of Wallace Community College — Dothan.



**Ms. Geri H. Albright** is the Director of Public Relations and Community Affairs at Lawson State Community College. Her responsibilities since joining Lawson State in 1988 are varied and include public relations, media relations, community affairs, and recruitment. She coordinates all of the local, state, and federal external affairs for the Office of the President and works with the congressional delegation and the state legislature. In addition, she is director of the Lawson State Foundation; director of the governmental affairs committee; chairperson for United Way; host of the weekly radio show, "The Lawson State Story"; and founder and advisor to the Lawson State Ambassadors.

She graduated from the University of Montevallo with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science. She received the Master of Arts in Public And Private Management, with an emphasis in public management from Birmingham Southern College.

Ms. Albright currently serves as Entertainment Chair of the Alabama College Association, and previously as Facilities Coordinator and Communications Officer. She has served on the Panel of Experts for the Alabama College System's Leadership Academy for the past four years, and was Lawson State's nominee in 1997 for the Chancellor's Award for Outstanding Administrator.

Professionally, as an organizing member of Alabama College System Public Relations Association (ACSPRA), Ms. Albright has served as secretary, treasurer, as well as other executive positions. Most notably, in the last two years, she has received 17 Pyramid Awards from ACSPRA for recognition of outstanding work. In addition, she is a member of the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations, Public Relations Council of America, and the American Marketing Association.

Active in other civic, church and community activities, she has also served as advisory board member of the Southwest Area Community Basic Skills Tutoring Program, Board Co-Chair of the Family Self-Sufficiency Program of Jefferson County Housing Authority, board member for St. Paul's Cathedral School, and member of several Visiting Allocation Teams for United Way.



**Ms. Jackie Screws** is the Dean of Student Affairs and Dean of the Sparks Campus at Wallace Community College-Dothan. She has 17 years of experience in higher education, 15 of which have been spent in the Alabama College System. Ms. Screws has worked her way up through the ranks, holding positions on various levels in higher education. She has effectively served in the following capacities: Financial Aid Counselor; Title III Counselor; Director of Student Support Services; Director of Student Services; Dean of Students Services; and Dean of Student Affairs and the Sparks Campus.

Ms. Screws is a 1983 magna cum laude graduate of the former Tuskegee Institute, currently Tuskegee University, receiving a B.S. Degree in Business Administration. She also received a Masters of Education from Tuskegee University in Student Personnel Administration in 1984. Ms. Screws has taken advantage of several professional development opportunities, most notably is her participation in a mentoring program, entitled "Mentoring African American Leaders for the Future." This program was sponsored by the President's Roundtable, National Council on Black American Affairs, an affiliate of the American Association of Community Colleges.

Ms. Screws is a member of the Alabama Deans of Student Affairs Association where she has served in several leadership roles, including secretary/treasurer, vice president, president, and she is currently serving on the executive committee. She has served on several Alabama College System Committees including, the Semester Conversion Committee for the Student Affairs division (1997-98); the Postsecondary Committee on Policy Matters (2000- present); All Alabama Academic Team Executive Board (2000-2002); All Alabama Academic Team Planning Committee (2002-present); Alabama College System's Workforce Development Credential Committee; Student Affairs Sub-committee for Distance Education Consortium; and the Project QPA Steering Committee (2003-present). In 1994, Ms. Screws was recognized for her outstanding leadership in the Alabama College System by receiving the Chancellor's Award for Administrator of the Year.

Ms. Screws has been actively involved in community and civic organizations and has generously given of her time and talents. She has affiliations with the following organizations and activities: Kiwanis Club of Eufaula, vice president; member, Board of Director's of the Boys and Girls Club of Eufaula; member, Education and Technology Committee of the Eufaula/Barbour County Chamber of Commerce; member, Economic Development Committee of the Eufaula/Barbour County Chamber of Commerce; Secretary of the Board of Directors of The House of Ruth; and Correspondence Secretary for the Columbus Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Additionally, Ms. Screws is a member of the Mt. Mariah Baptist Church, where she serves on the finance committee and sings in the senior choir.



## Athens State University's Hemingway Recognized with Award



Linda Hemingway

The Institute of Management Accountants (IMA) recently honored Athens State University Accounting Professor **Linda Hemingway** at its annual conference in Chicago.

Hemingway received IMA's Ursel K. Albers Academic Mentor of the Year Award. The Ursel K. Albers Academic Mentor of the Year Award is presented each year to an IMA Academic Mentor or Student Chapter Advisor who demonstrates exceptional commitment to IMA students and an IMA Student Chapter. The award recognizes an individual who meets the standards set by Professor Albers for providing students with leadership opportunities and career guidance.

"Professor Hemingway is the perfect example of a faculty member who strives to prepare her students academically and with experiences beyond the classroom," said **Dr. Linda Shonesy**, interim dean of the College of Business at Athens State University. "I admire her work and dedication to our students."

Hemingway has served as the academic mentor of the Athens State Student Chapter of IMA since its inception in 1991. The Accounting Club at Athens State endowed a scholarship in her honor. She has been a member of the Athens State University faculty for 14 years and recently was honored with her second Excellence in Teaching Award in the College of Business. She holds a Bachelor's Degree from Western Mexico University and a Master's Degree in Accounting from New Mexico State University. She will begin serving on IMA's National Committee on Students this fall.

"I am honored to receive this award," said Hemingway. "This award is really for the students. They are the ones doing the hard work and making things happen. I can't say enough about our students at Athens State. They make my job easy."

## Bevill State's Brown Receives Certification



Kelvin Brown

Bevill State Community College has become the first postsecondary institution in Alabama approved to offer I-CAR certified training to its auto body/refinishing technology students.

The college received its I-CAR status after auto body/refinishing faculty member **Kelvin Brown** became certified as an I-CAR instructor.

Bevill State utilizes the I-CAR (Inter-Industry Conference of Automotive Repair) Enhanced Delivery Curriculum, which provides students with internationally recognized standards that help prepare them for their ASE certification, providing the students with a widely accepted level of quality training as they enter the workforce.

The I-CAR certification should be a strong selling point for Bevill State program graduates with the collision repair industry facing a shortage of quality entry-level technicians, according to the I-CAR Education Foundation's Snapshot of the Industry survey.

"Being able to receive the I-CAR certification puts our students in the best possible position in the marketplace," BSCC President **Dr. Harold Wade** said. "They will complete our program with a solid background of training that recognized throughout the industry."

The college also provides students with other advantages of working with I-CAR, including promoting professionalism by utilizing additional training that is offered by I-CAR.



## Willis Selected for Leadership Academy



(L to R) Dr. Nancy Chandler, vice president of Instruction, Institutional Effectiveness & Development, Mrs. Maria Willis, Dr. Gary Branch, president of FSCC

**E. Maria Willis** was selected by FSCC's President **Dr. Gary Branch** to participate in the University of Alabama's Leadership Academy for 2003-2004.

Former Governor Albert Brewer was the keynote speaker for the kick-off luncheon held at the University of Alabama. The academy participants spent the rest of the week at the University of Alabama for additional sessions.

Four additional sessions were scheduled for the participants: October 2003, in Montgomery at the Department of Postsecondary; December 2003, in Andalusia at Lurleen B. Wallace Community College; February 2004, in Birmingham at Jefferson State Community College; and April 2004, in Tuscaloosa at the University of Alabama for the culminating sessions, which included the participants' graduation from the Academy.

University of Alabama President Robert Whit addressed the graduates and U. S. Representative Artur Davis was the graduation speaker.

## Calhoun Community College Announces Program Targeting Training for Non-Custodial Fathers

Calhoun Community College recently announced the formal kick-off of the Alabama Fatherhood Initiative (AFI) of Morgan County, a program designed to provide short-term employment and skills training services to assist underemployed and unemployed non-custodial fathers who have fallen significantly behind on their child support payments.

Calhoun is one of nine community colleges in the state selected to pilot the Alabama Fatherhood Initiative program. Specifically, the program provides employment opportunities to under- and unemployed non-custodial parents through increased educational and short-term skills training opportunities, adult education classes, and pre-employment skills to get these individuals into the workforce sooner. In addition, it provides realistic alternatives to incarceration for non-custodial parents who want to work and meet their financial responsibilities to their children and training completion certification and assistance in obtaining viable employment opportunities.

Calhoun's job training offers participants skills in Commercial Drivers' License (CDL), welding, health care programs (Phlebotomy Technician, Pharmacy Technician, Medical Billings Records Clerk, Certified Nursing Assistant), and computer application classes. The students have up to 12 weeks to complete the program (depending on work schedules).

**Angela Henderson** serves as the program's Interim Case Manager. A graduate of Athens State University with a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science and Criminal Justice, Ms. Henderson most recently worked as a program manager with PACT (Parents and Children Together). Funding for tuition for program participants is being provided through Welfare-to-Work and the Workforce Investment Act.

## LBWCC's New LPN-RN Mobility Program

Lurleen B. Wallace Community College began accepting students for the LPN-RN Mobility program June 30 at the college's MacArthur Campus. After graduation, the students will be eligible to take the state licensure examination for registered nurses. The program offers residents in Covington and surrounding counties a unique opportunity to further their nursing career without extensive commuting.

The program, approved by the Alabama Board of Nursing in January, was developed based on need as indicated by area health care workers and health care providers. Barry Keel, CEO, Andalusia Regional Hospital, stated, "This LPN-RN mobility program is much needed in South Alabama to better meet the RN staffing needs in this region."



## Bessemer State Hosts Successful Accreditation Visit

Bessemer State Technical College is another step closer to being accredited by the Commission on Colleges, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). During the week of June 7th Bessemer State hosted a three day SACS Accreditation Team visit. Accreditation by SACS will allow students to transfer courses to other colleges and universities across the United States. The college is currently accredited by the Council on Occupational Education.

After reviewing the college's documentation, the SACS Visiting Team made only five recommendations for improvement. The recommendations help the college meet accreditation compliance standards.

The team awarded Bessemer State a commendation "for its appropriate, timely, and successful effort to build its library collections, and for its recognition of the importance of developing a quality library to meet the needs of its evolving mission. It was clear to the committee that the President, the BSTC Foundation, and the BSTC college community as a whole responded enthusiastically to this identified need."

"According to team members, commendations are rare for any SACS visit. And to receive a commendation for our efforts concerning the library is particularly rewarding because so many people stepped in to help build an appropriate library collection," said Bessemer State Technical College President, **Dr. Mike Bailey**.

SACS will present Bessemer State with an official report in the next two months and the college will respond with documentation showing its compliance with the five recommendations. If the responses are accepted the college could be accredited as early as December 2004.

Once Bessemer State receives SACS accreditation, students will be able to transfer the Associate degree level, general education courses such as math, English, speech, psychology, and economics. Accreditation will also allow Bessemer State to enter into articulation agreements with other colleges and universities that offer programs in horticulture, computer science, and office administration.

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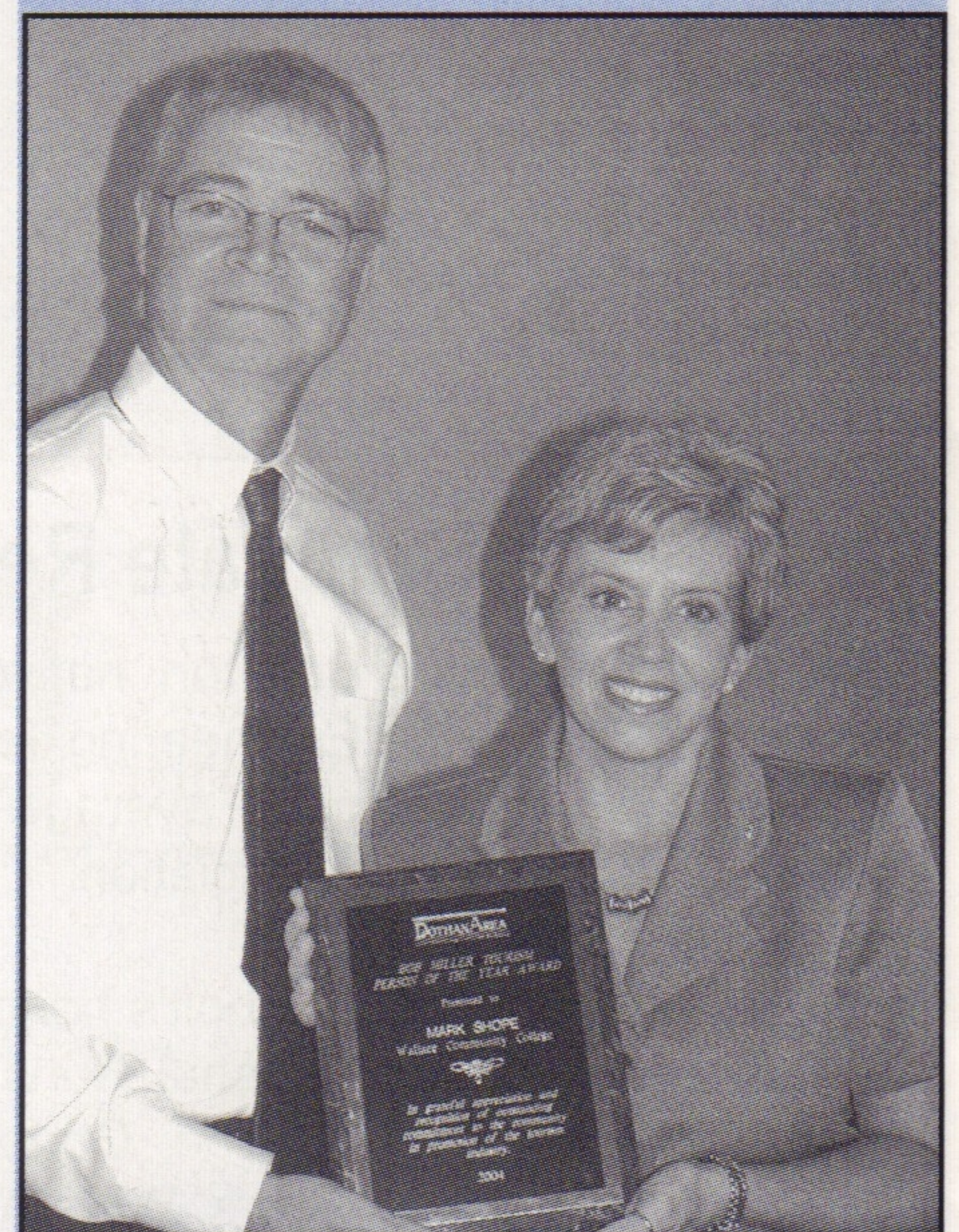
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## Wallace-Dothan's Shope Honored for Tourism Efforts

**Mark Shope**, dean of student development and Wallace Campus of Wallace Community College in Dothan, was named the Bob Miller Tourism Person of the Year by the Dothan Area Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Dean Shope was recognized for his efforts in bringing the Alabama Community College Conference state baseball tournament to Dothan for the past three consecutive years.

The 2005 tournament will also be held in Dothan next May.



Congratulating Dean Mark Shope on behalf of the Dothan Area Convention and Visitor's Bureau is Wanda Walker.



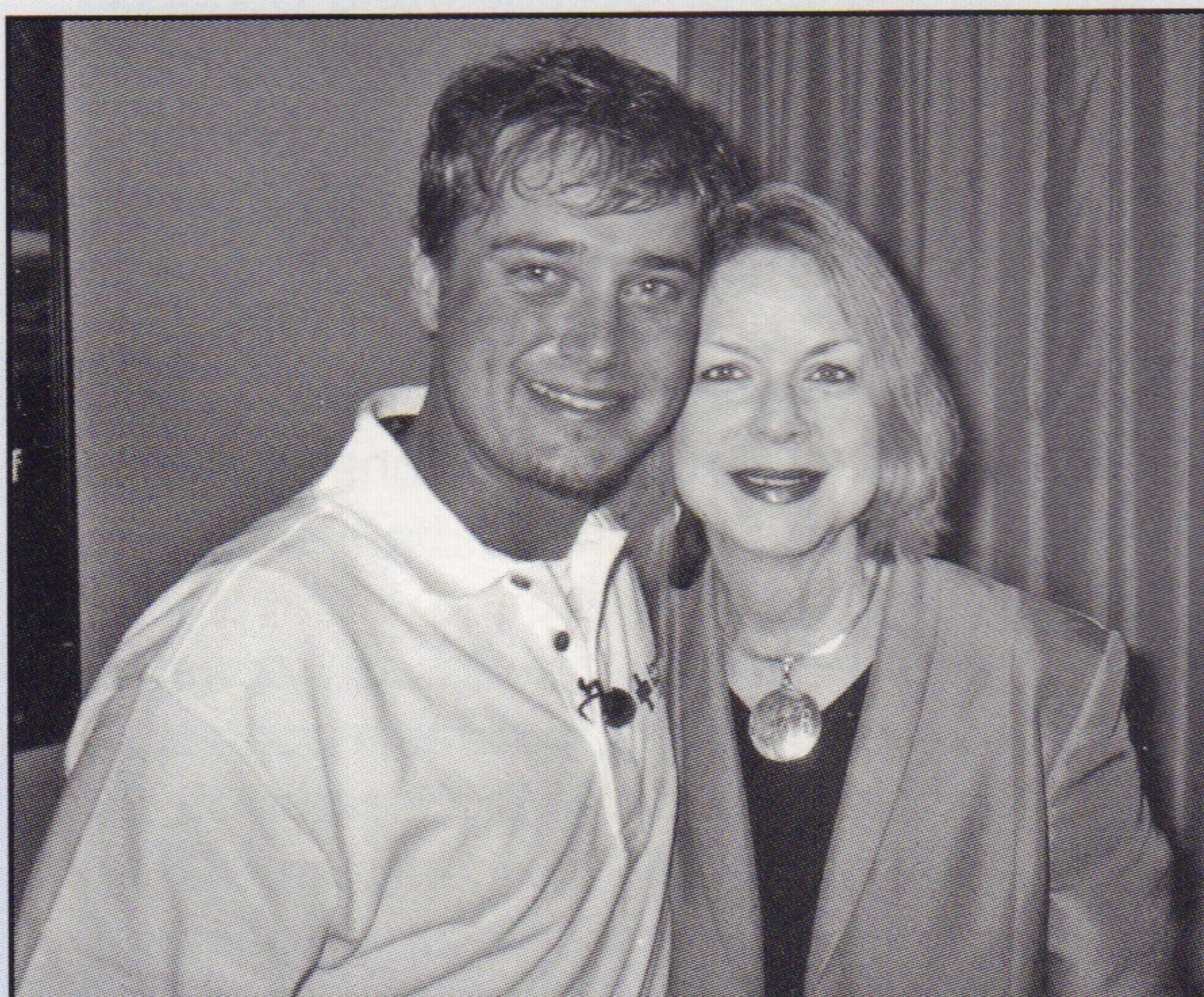
# ACA ALUMNI NEWS

## Former Southern Union State Student is Nashville Star

**Brad Cotter**, a former Southern Union State Community College (SU) music student who calls Opelika home, is now a Nashville star! The 33-year-old Cotter won the USA Network's 2004 *Nashville Star* competition beating out Canada's George Canyon. Similar to the popular *American Idol*, *Nashville Stars*' emphasis is on country music.

The winning announcement came live May 1 after the final two contestants were announced. Then, after nine straight weeks of live performances on a national stage, the journey that began almost six months earlier ended when Cotter was revealed as the 2004 Nashville Star. He then performed his first single "I Meant To" live on the air before the BellSouth Acuff Theatre crowd.

"I Meant To," which Cotter co-wrote with Rick Giles and Steve Bogard, entered the Billboard chart at Number 42 on May 10. It is the highest entry for a new artist's debut single since January



SUSCC former Student Brad Cotter and SUSCC Music Director Ann Caldwell

1990. Cotter beat out last year's Nashville Star winner Buddy Jewell's single which had debuted at Number 44.

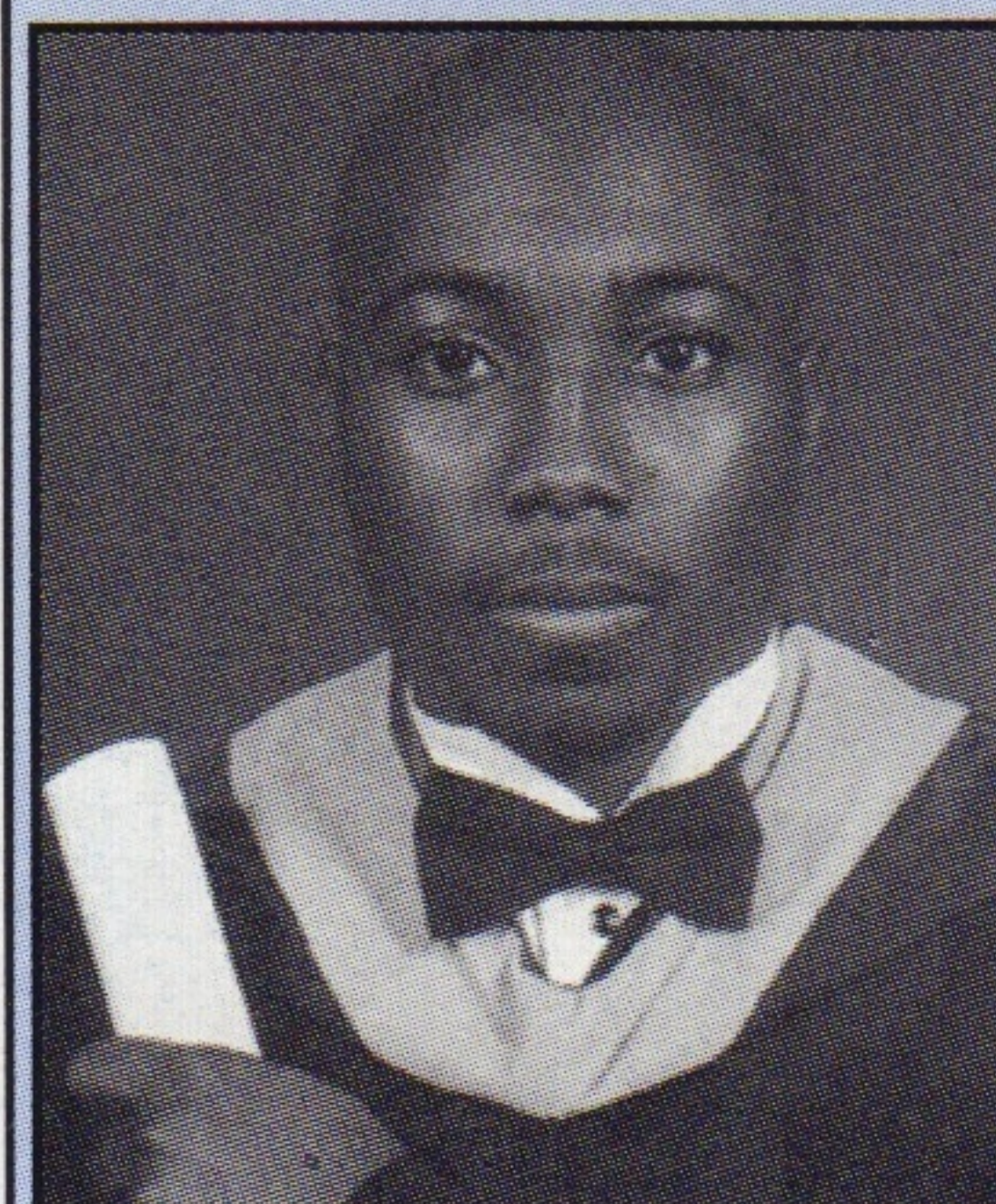
Growing up, Cotter performed around Opelika and Auburn and recorded five gospel albums. He has been in Nashville since 1993 writing songs for publishing companies and singing on demo tapes.

In 1990, Cotter auditioned for **Ann Caldwell**, music director at SU, and after only one verse and half of a chorus into a song he played on the piano, Caldwell knew she had found an especially talented student. Caldwell offered Cotter a performing arts scholarship on the spot. Cotter remained at SU through 1991 and performed in several college productions.

"Brad still has that star appeal," said Caldwell. "He has it all, and I am certain that he will be a huge success in the music industry."

The road ahead looks very good for Cotter. He won a recording contract with Sony Music in Nashville. The Nashville Star 2004 tour dates have been announced and the tour will take Cotter and the three runners-up all across the country this summer.

## Reid State Graduate Receives Degree from Alabama A&M



Brewton native, **Jonathan Godbolt**, received a Bachelor's of Science degree in Electrical Engineering Technology in May, from Alabama A & M University. Godbolt maintained a 4.0 grade point average at A & M while working with Job ERC, a contractor with NASA Engineering Association.

Godbolt's honors at A & M include vice-president of Tau Alpha Phi, a member of Alpha Kappa Mu National Honor Society, and a floor representative for Stephens Hall. At Reid State Technical College, Godbolt was a member of the All Alabama Academic Team for 2000, SGA President, Who's Who Among American Junior College Students, National Vocational Technical Honor Society, and Vocational Industrial Clubs of America. Godbolt graduated from Reid State Technical

College in May 2000 as an honor student with an Associate Degree in Electronics Technology.

Upon comparing the coursework of Alabama A & M and Reid State, Godbolt indicated the study skills to be similar with more theory in the A & M electronic classes. He stated he was able to apply the RSTC electronic lab skills to the A & M lab classes.



## Two Former Bishop State Students Stood Guard Over President Reagan



Jason Dionne



Victor Jordan

Two former Bishop State Community College students were members of the honor guard assigned to funeral activities of President Ronald Reagan, who died June 5.

The honor guards, both of whom attended Bishop State Community College in Mobile before joining the military and being selected for special honor guard service, stood 30-minute

watches every two hours at the head or foot of Reagan's casket.

Seaman **Jason Dionne** of Mobile joined the U.S. Navy last August, and now serves as a member of the Navy Ceremonial Honor Guard. He took part in the ceremonial transfer of Reagan's body from the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library in Simi Valley, California, to the airplane taking the casket to Washington, D.C. He also stood watch as Reagan's body lied in repose at the presidential library as thousands of mourners filed by to pay final respect to the former president.

Dionne, 28, also remained in California to be part of the ceremony honoring Reagan when the former president's body was returned to the

library for interment.

Seaman **Victor Jordan** was part of the U.S. Coast Guard Ceremonial Honor Guard, which stood watch over former President Reagan's body at the presidential library in California. Jordan, 21, of Mobile, is stationed in Alexandria, Va. He played the position of forward on the basketball team at Bishop State Community College for two years.

Honor guards represent each branch of the military at full-honor ceremonies for deceased military and presidents and at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington Cemetery.

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# ACA CONFERENCE



Dr. Stafford Thompson,  
ACA president

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The foundation for success can be found at each institution that comprises the Alabama College System. Dedication to quality education and career development for each student is easily identifiable in our System. Examples of this dedication can be found throughout this publication.

Using this dedication as a model, the Executive Committee of the Alabama College Association has laid the foundation for our system's members to receive quality professional development. As employees of our system, you have the opportunity to build upon this foundation at the Alabama College Association annual conference

scheduled in Birmingham November 21 through 23.

It is my hope that you will be able to attend the conference and personally witness the experience and knowledge of the scheduled speakers, the dedication of your fellow System employees as they lead our workshops and meetings, and the camaraderie we share as educators. Each person's involvement with the conference guarantees a stronger foundation for our System.

I hope you will be able to join your fellow System employees at the conference. I look forward to seeing the success we enjoy grow stronger, and the dedication we share continue to prosper.

## REGISTRATION FORM

*If possible, please designate an individual from your institution to complete this registration form and have your college's financial officer issue one P.O. number for all attendees.*

Name of College \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Attendees from your College \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

**\$130 Early Registration (\$140 On-Site Fee)**

*Price includes three light meals (2 breakfasts and one lunch)*

*Early registration ends November 15, 2004*

**Make Checks payable to ACA**

**Mail to:**

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**Fax to:**

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*If paying by check, please mail registration form with your payment.  
Also, please check your fax confirmation if sending by fax, and keep a copy for your records.*



# ACA CONFERENCE

## SCHEDULED FOR THE CONFERENCE

### FEATURED SPEAKERS

#### **OPENING SESSION**

Dr. Belle Wheelan

Secretary of Education, Commonwealth of Virginia

#### **CHANCELLOR'S ADDRESS**

Dr. Roy Johnson

Chancellor, Alabama College System

### COMMISSION SPEAKERS

#### **COMMISSION ON ADMINISTRATION/STUDENTS**

Dr. Zelema Harris, President of Parkland College

#### **COMMISSION ON FACULTY**

Dr. Roy Johnson, Chancellor, Alabama College System

#### **COMMISSION ON SUPPORT STAFF**

Dr. Devin Stephenson, President, Snead State Community College

### ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

**FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION**

**INSTRUCTIONAL OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION**

**DEANS OF STUDENTS ASSOCIATION**

**INFORMATION SERVICES ASSOCIATION**

**LIBRARY ASSOCIATION**

**ADULT ED SUPERVISORS**

**ALABAMA COLLEGE SYSTEM PUBLIC RELATIONS ASSOCIATION**

### SACS Workshops

#### **OVERVIEW AND TRAINING**

Presented by Dr. Ann Chard, Southern Assn. of Colleges and Schools

## PROPOSED WORKSHOP TOPICS

*"The Classroom Instructor  
as Leader"*

*"An Available Resource for  
People Seeking Sobriety"*

*"Workplace Harassment"*

*"Service Learning"*

*"Self-Help Through Great  
Literature"*

*"WEB CT Online Learning  
Communication Tools"*

**...AND MANY MORE**

## ATTENTION NEWCOMERS

New to ACA this year?  
Be sure to attend the  
Newcomers Meeting,  
scheduled for  
Monday, Nov. 22  
beginning at 8:30 a.m.

## HOTEL INFORMATION

Call the Birmingham Sheraton Civic Center Hotel directly to make your reservations

(205) 324-5000 or 1-888-627-7095

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**\$72 King/Double** (plus \$10 each additional person in your room)

To receive the correct rate, be sure to mention you are with the Alabama College Association Conference



# Jefferson State Named in Top 10 Digital-Savvy Community Colleges in Nation



Center for Digital Education Director Marina Leight (L) presents the award to Jefferson State's Director of Information Services Dr. Harriott Calhoun.

Jefferson State Community College was recently named in the top-10 digital-savvy, cutting-edge community colleges by the Center for Digital Education and American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) in the second annual Digital Community Colleges Survey.

Launched in October 2003, the Digital Community Colleges Survey examined and assessed how community colleges have progressed in using information technology to deliver services to their students, faculty and staff. College officials responded to a set of 18 questions and community colleges were ranked according to a four-point scale, providing web site addresses and background data for final verification and validation.

Presidents at nearly 1,000 community colleges across the nation were invited to participate in the survey. Winners were grouped into three categories based on city and student population: Large/urban, mid-sized/suburban, and small/rural.

"For years the Center for Digital Education has been advocating the use of technology to improve services and the student experience in our nation's community college system," said Marina Leight, director of the Center. "Results of the Digital Community Colleges Survey show that great progress has been made. We are very pleased to honor and showcase the community colleges that have made outstanding contributions in education technology."

The Center for Digital Education is a national research and advisory institute providing industry and education leaders with decision support, research and services to help them effectively incorporate new technologies in the 21st century. The Center publishes a series of special reports and white papers, produces over a dozen education events each year, and provides an array of market intelligence programs and special projects.

Based in Washington, D.C., the American Association of Community Colleges is a national association representing the nation's 1,151 accredited community, junior and technical colleges. The colleges comprise the largest sector of higher education, serving almost half (45 percent) of U.S. undergraduates, an estimated 10 million students each year.

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## Wallace State - Hanceville Employees Receive Achievement Awards

Three Wallace State-Hanceville employees were honored with Education Achievement Awards at a recent ceremony for faculty and staff members sponsored by the college's Professional Development Committee.

**Neal Morrison** of Cullman, **Cherie Smith** of Cullman, and **Gail Hyatt** of Ashville were nominated and chosen by their peers for recognition of their contributions to Wallace State Community College and the community.

Wallace State President **Dr. Vicki Hawsey** and **Alina Adams**, chair of the Professional Development Committee, presented the awards representing faculty, support and administrative staff categories.



Pictured L-R: Wallace State-Hanceville Employee Achievement Award winners Neal Morrison, Cheri Smith and Gail Hyatt with Wallace State president Dr. Vicki Hawsey and special guest Mike Royer of NBC 13 News.

"The contributions that each of you have made throughout this extremely busy year are not only a testimony to your success as individuals and as colleagues, but also to your significance as leaders and mentors to our students and to each other," said Hawsey.

Smith is a Computer Lab/Testing Center specialist at Wallace State, where she has been employed for 5 years. Hyatt, Occupational Therapy Assistant Instructor and Academic Fieldwork Coordinator, has been employed at Wallace State since the OTA program began in 1994.

As Director of Adult Education and Workforce Development at Wallace State, Morrison's responsibilities include facilitating training for business and industry and supervising the maintenance department. In his 14-year tenure at Wallace State, he has established an adult education program that serves as a model for the state.

Nominees for the Education Achievement Awards consistently demonstrate exceptional job performance beyond routine expectations in areas such as personal integrity, dependability, willingness to work with others, punctuality, efficiency, classroom/workplace innovation and creativity. They participate in on-campus and off-campus activities beyond usual job expectations including professional development, fundraising, volunteerism, continuing education, and leadership.

Winners received a \$1000 travel stipend to attend an educational or professional conference for the purpose of professional development.

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## Northwest - Shoals Dual Credit/Dual Enrollment Instructors Integrate into Local High Schools

Northwest-Shoals Community College (NW-SCC) is going above and beyond the call of duty to assist high school students in accelerating their transition to college. Northwest-Shoals Dual Credit/ Dual Enrollment instructors, **Ken Brackins** and **Brad Pool**, are doing their part by teaching basic college courses inside the Mt. Hope and Haleyville High School systems.

Brackins, NW-SCC Psychology Instructor, and Pool, NW-SCC History Instructor, are striving to provide local high school students with more advantages through the Dual Credit/ Dual Enrollment (DC/DE) program to assist in furthering their education. "Brad and I are taking this opportunity to provide local students with an edge on those students who wait till they have completed high school to begin their college career," Brackins said. This "edge" provides students with a lower cost of postsecondary education for students by shortening the time of degree completion. This proves very beneficial for the average student, with the average cost of tuition on a constant rise.

The DC/DE program plays a vital role in the high school system by keeping its students focused on the future instead of the short term goal of graduating high school. The program also assists in eliminating any barriers which may impede the students' progress from the K-12 system to postsecondary systems.

Through the Spring 2004 semester, NW-SCC had 160 students enrolled in the Dual Credit/ Dual Enrollment Program with 22 of these students taking classes on the NW-SCC campuses. Many students are already taking advantage of this excellent educational opportunity.

## Learning Communities a New Addition to CVCC'S Academic Experience

**Amy Porche**, a CVCC English instructor, has been instrumental in the development of Learning Community classes at CVCC. Learning Communities are innovative programs where students enroll in two or more courses that are organized around a common theme. A recent semester's theme is "The Holocaust".

The purpose of learning communities is to create an integrated classroom experience and to increase collaboration of students and faculty in the pursuit of learning. Porche integrated her English Composition II course with Humanities 298, which focused on film studies.

To provide a focal point for the Learning Community, Porche created a Holocaust exhibit in the college's learning resources center. The exhibit, a wooden boxcar, symbolized the mode of transportation the Nazis used to carry Jews to concentration camps. Within the boxcar are Holocaust ghosts with the "Jude" star pinned on the chest, and empty adult and children shoes beneath. Photos lined around the exhibit show victims and survivors of the camps.

"A number of my students knew nothing about the Holocaust. They may have known some of the facts but had no concept of the gravity, and the vast devastation. Through the integration of reading, discussing, and watching films, the students' eyes have been opened. They keep asking me 'Why?' and 'How?' and I share the information I have," stated Porche.



This exhibit of the Holocaust provided a focal point for the Learning Community program.

## EOCC Honors Literacy Volunteers

Enterprise-Ozark Community College's Adult Literacy Program recently honored its volunteer literacy tutors during Volunteer Appreciation Week.

Through a partnership of the EOCC Adult Education Consortium and area banks, tutors received copies of the book, *Chicken Soup for the Volunteers Soul*, which celebrates the spirit of courage, caring, and community as reflected in the lives of volunteers.



Pictured on the front row, from left to right: Leslie Williams of CB&T, tutor Denese Dixon, tutor Bea Fuentes, and tutor Betty Jane Hunt. On the second row, from left to right: Mark Tomberlin of Citizens Bank, EOCC Adult Education Supervisor Harvey Watt, and Vince Lawford of Regions Bank. Colonial Bank was also a literacy tutor recognition partner.



## HERNANDEZ GRADUATES FROM NORTHEAST ALABAMA

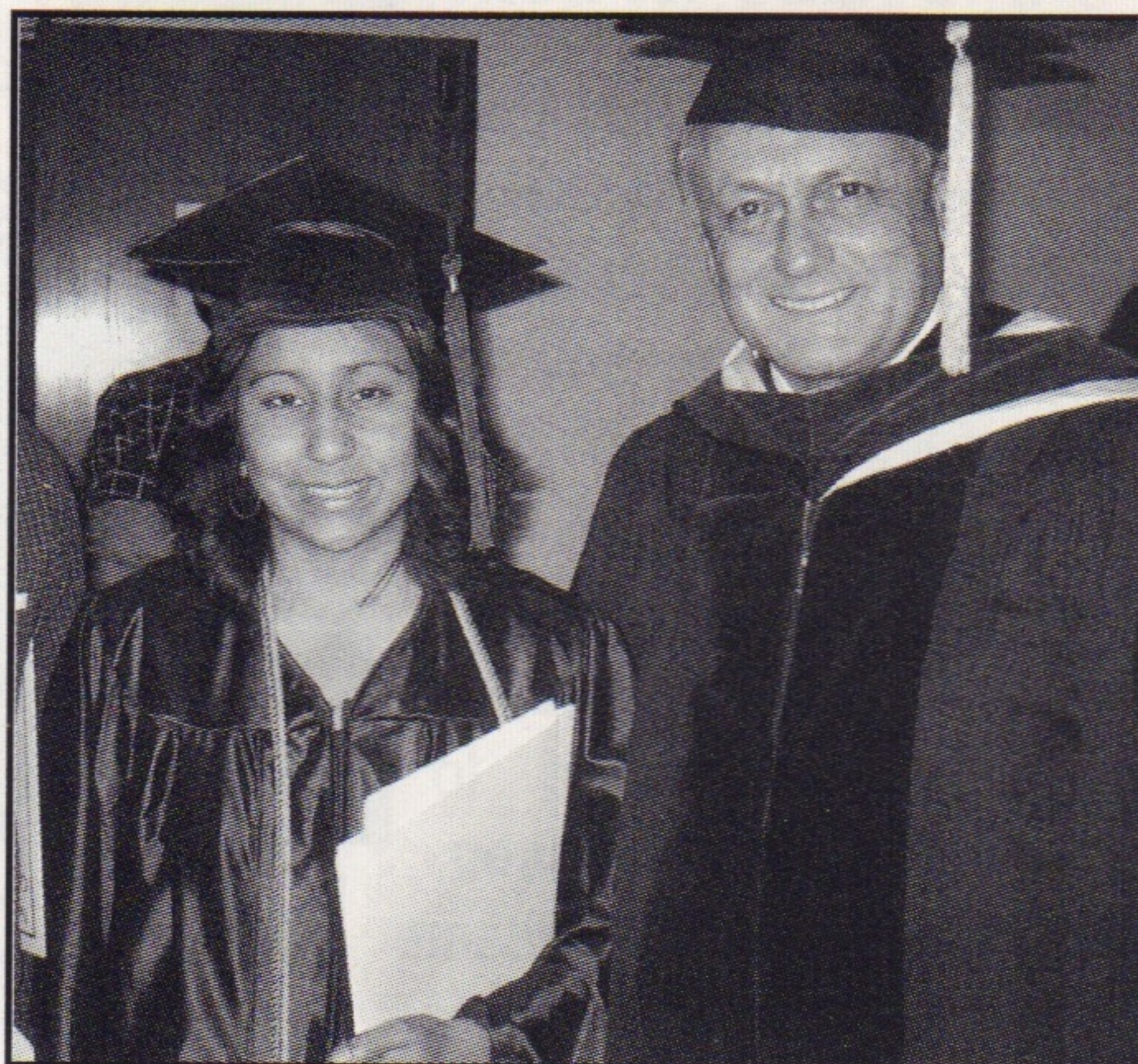
**Juana Hernandez** was one of 96 students graduating from Northeast Alabama Community College (NACC) at ceremonies recently held at the college. Ms. Hernandez became the focus of attention in 2001 when her admission to NACC was challenged under Alabama College System guidelines then in effect. Although she had been awarded a scholarship to NACC based on her academic success at Collinsville High School in DeKalb County, Hernandez admission and scholarship to the college were questioned because she did not hold United States citizenship.

After involved discussions among NACC officials, the Alabama College System, and the United States Department of Immigration, Hernandez was admitted to NACC and her tuition paid through private scholarships raised by the college. Largely based on Hernandez' case, the Alabama State Board of Education in 2003 changed its policy and now permits students who have graduated from an Alabama high school and have been in attendance at the school for two years to be admitted as state resident students. These students also are entitled to state scholarships.

Hernandez graduated with honor from NACC with the Associate in Science degree. While at NACC, Ms. Hernandez was selected for Mu Alpha Theta and Phi Theta Kappa, two of the college's top academic honor societies.

"I never had a doubt that Ms. Hernandez would succeed. She is an outstanding young woman," stated **Dr. David Campbell**, NACC President. "She only needed the chance."

Campbell commended the State Board and the Alabama College System for recognizing the admissions problem and altering it so that deserving students such as Hernandez can pursue their educations. Hernandez now



works for a private business and hopes to obtain her bachelor's degree at a four-year school in the near future. Her case has received local, regional, and national attention and was featured in the recent documentary "Coming to a Crossroads: The Story of Collinsville, Alabama", produced by the University of Alabama Center for Public Television and Radio.

## Three Bishop State Staffers Receive College's Highest Award

**Dr. Terry Hazzard**, dean of Students; **Dr. Belinda "Wendy" Downing**, director of Health Related Professions; and **Barbara Powe**, director of Nursing Programs; are the recipients of Bishop State Community College's 2004 President's Award.

The highest internal award issued each year, Bishop State President **Dr. Yvonne Kennedy** gives the award to employees whose work performance has been most exemplary in promoting the college's program of excellence.

## Lawson State Offers Affordable Home Building Program

Lawson State Community College has been awarded a \$ 550,000 grant from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and will receive \$600,000 in assistance from the City of Birmingham over a three-year period to conduct an Affordable Home Building Program in and around its population service area.

This program will offer job skills training for 15 participants per year who will log a minimum of 320 classroom hours over 16 weeks, alternating classroom training with on-the-job training. It will also provide a neighborhood revitalization service that specifically targets home construction.

Students enrolled in Lawson State's building trades programs — drafting, carpentry, plumbing and electrical services, will have an opportunity to combine classroom training with practical experience while working on dilapidated homes under the supervision of highly proficient instructors and general contractors.

Lawson State faculty **Steve Taylor** (plumbing), **David Jones** (drafting and design) and **Clarence Douglas** (electrical) will provide the instructional components for the program.

"As an active participant in the community, Lawson State sees this cooperation venture as another opportunity to expand its role and broaden its effectiveness in addressing community needs," said Lawson State President, **Dr. Perry W. Ward**.

This project is a unique and innovative strategy that has not been implemented by any other agency for the southwestern communities and neighborhoods in the City of Birmingham.



## Northeast Alabama Receives Grant

The Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) has awarded a \$36,000 grant to Northeast Alabama Community College (NACC) for the college to expand its Mathematics Learning Logic Lab.

"It's quite an honor for the college to receive this grant," stated **Dr. David Campbell**, NACC President. "I think that this is a vote of confidence in Northeast at a national level that we are providing state-of-the-art technology in mathematics education."

The college's Mathematics Learning Logic Lab originally was established from a grant through the ARC and the National Science Foundation (NSF). The National Science Center Foundation continues to administer the software involved in the mathematics instruction at Northeast. More than 500 NACC students use the lab for instruction each year.

NACC will match the ARC grant in funding, permitting the college to add thirty-two more computers and to upgrade the existing equipment.

"This grant is especially timely," stated **Dr. Joe Burke**, director of Admissions and Student Services at NACC. "The Learning Logic Lab is well suited for developmental studies and we are now in the process of devising a plan to improve our developmental studies program at the college."

The plan is being devised as a part of the college's periodic reaffirmation of accreditation process with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

The project will be presented to the Alabama State Board of Education for final approval. College officials plan to have the expansion of the Mathematics Learning Logic Lab complete for the start of the Fall Semester.

## Drake State Hosts State Board Meeting

The Alabama State Board of Education takes its meetings on the road outside of Montgomery just twice a year, and this time, J. F. Drake State Technical College was selected as the host site for the board's April meeting.

The meeting, which was held April 22, was preceded by events designed to honor **Dr. Roy Johnson**, chancellor of the Alabama College System; Alabama state board members, and two-year college presidents and personnel from across Alabama.



From left: Dr. Roy Johnson, chancellor of the Alabama College System; Dr. Ethel Hall, Alabama State Board vice-president, District IV; Alice Raymond, Chancellor's Award Winner; Dr. Mary Jane Caylor, Alabama State Board Member, District VIII; and Dr. Helen McAlpine, president of J. F. Drake State Technical College.

One event, a campus tour, was conducted with departmental student demonstrations. The cosmetology and barbering department provided massage therapy, pedicures, manicures, and hairstyling for interested visitors, while the practical nursing department offered demonstrations through blood pressure and diabetes health screenings. In addition to those activities, the automotive mechanics department performed student demonstrations to prepare vehicles for the hot summer months.

After the demonstrations, a reception was held in honor of Chancellor Roy Johnson and the Alabama State Board of Education members at The Ledges Country Club.

During the reception, gifts were presented to the honorees from Drake, as well as by Local companies and businesses. **Dr. Mary Jane Caylor** and **Dr. Ethel Hall** made closing remarks in response to the overwhelming support and gratitude expressed by the Drake family.

Many sponsors provided support for the hosting of the reception including the following companies: The ACCESS Group, Inc., Colonial Bank, Regions Bank, Hills Interiors, The Committee of 100, Lockheed Martin Space Systems Company, SouthTrust Bank, Techni-Core, Buffalo Rock Company, Bellsouth, L & I Security Services, Inc., Madison Research Corporation, Reed's Office Supply and Equipment, Huntsville Utilities, Garber Construction Co., Inc., Colonial Graphics Group, Huntsville/Madison County Chamber of Commerce, Stanley Construction Company, Nelms Memorial Funeral Home, Woody Anderson Ford, PH & J Architects, Inc., Dillard's, Hampton Inn, US Space & Rocket Center, Parisian, Inc., State Farm Insurance Companies, and Applebee's Neighborhood Grill & Bar.

During the meeting, the board approved the name of Drake's future library and technology center as the S. C. O'Neal, Sr. Library and Technology Center. The facility will be named after Drake's first director/president, **Seward Carverless O'Neal, Sr.**, who served the college from 1961-1982.



# CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS

The conference format will consist of four tracks:

- I. Teaching and Learning
- II. Student Success
- III. Staff Development
- IV. Leadership

Proposals for presentations are invited for each of the four conference tracks.  
Presentations will be scheduled in one hour blocks.

**Deadline for Submission is September 30, 2004**

Proposals for presentations should be submitted to Dr. Jim Prucnal via email at [cwilcutt@gadsdenstate.edu](mailto:cwilcutt@gadsdenstate.edu) or fax to (256) 549-8218.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ FAX \_\_\_\_\_

College/Company \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Track: \_\_\_\_\_ Teaching and Learning

\_\_\_\_\_ Student Success

\_\_\_\_\_ Staff Development

\_\_\_\_\_ Leadership

Presentation Topic: \_\_\_\_\_

Brief Abstract of Presentation (50 words or less): \_\_\_\_\_

All rooms will be equipped with microphone, overhead projector, and screen. Please indicate your preference for room seating: Theater (Rows of Chairs) \_\_\_\_\_ Classroom (Tables/Chairs) \_\_\_\_\_

**Speakers will be responsible for arranging their own laptops, projectors, and any special AV equipment.**

## Adams Learning Resources, LLC

338 Highland Park Drive Birmingham, AL 35242-6337  
e-mail: [dladams@hiway.net](mailto:dladams@hiway.net) Fax: (205) 980-2507



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# The Alabama College System: Foundation for Success

## November 21- 23, 2004 Birmingham Sheraton Civic Center

### Scheduled Agenda

#### Sunday, November 21, 2004

12:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	.....	Registration
2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.	.....	Association Meetings
4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	.....	Chancellor's Awards
5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	.....	Chancellor's Reception

#### Monday, November 22, 2004

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	.....	Registration
8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.	.....	Light Breakfast Provided
8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.	.....	Newcomers' Meeting
9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	.....	Workshops
10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.	.....	Vendor Expo/Refreshments
10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	.....	Opening Session
Dr. Belle Wheelan, Speaker		
12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.	.....	Light Lunch Provided
1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.	.....	Workshops
2:45 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.	.....	Workshops
3:45 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.	.....	Break/Refreshments Provided
4:15 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.	.....	Commission Meetings
8:00 p.m. - Midnight	.....	Dance

#### Tuesday, November 23, 2004

8:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.	.....	Light Breakfast Provided
8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.	.....	Workshops
9:30 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.	.....	Break
9:45 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	.....	Chancellor's Address
.....	.....	Business Meeting
.....	.....	Door Prizes
.....	.....	Adjournment

Sponsored by  
The Alabama College Association  
Representing Alabama's Two-Year Colleges